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No. 351.	FEB. 1, 1901.	Vol. XXX.
	CONTENTS.	
		PAGE
OUR PUBLIC	C LIBRARIES	65
	THE HISTORICAL NO	VEL. Alfred
Alfred 1	ATIONS	ery Literature.
A MODERN	STOIC. Percy Favor Bio	knell 68
	THE VULGAR TONG	
A POETIC I	DRAMA. Edward E. Ha	
	NT BOOKS OF TRAVE	
Stanley James's In Between t rey's A Su Paradise o Orient. — ways. — W St. Kilda. to the Ori		yon. — Curtis's — Miss Humph— Browne's The Che Pearl of the hways and By— — Heathcote's ican Girl's Trip
lace Ric Desmolin', against th the War. grave's In Relief of I — Churchi Churchill' Boers in Africa.— The Great Office, th Abererom Farrelly's Africa.	POLITICS IN SOUTH A:  Boer Republics.—Cecil'  Miss Markham's South South Africa with Buller.  Adysmith.—Ashe's Beaiege ill's London to Ladysmith  I an Hamilton's March.— Var.—Davis's With Both A Wilkinson's Lessons of the'  Boer War.—Arnold-For  Boer War.—Arnold-For  The Rise and Fall of  The Settlement after the	e British Case e British Case of Africa. — Mus— Atkins's The dby the Boers, via Pretoria. — Hillegas' The krmies in South War. — Doyle's ster's The War .— Scoble and Krugerism. — War in South
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BRIEFER M	ENTION	82
NOTES		83
TOPICS IN	LEADING PERIODICAL	LS 84
LICT OF NE	PHF DOOPS	0.4

#### OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

An interesting article contributed by Mr. Herbert Putnam to the January "International Monthly " sums up the progress of recent years in American library development. The public library in the United States has become so important a part of our educational machinery and so influential a factor in our intellectual life that the principal facts concerning its development should be in the possession of every intelligent person, and it is desirable that they should be summed up from time to time by some writer of Mr. Putnam's experience and authority. As librarian of our great national collection of books he is officially at the head of his profession in the United States, and those who know anything of his zeal and his equipment do not need to be told that the profession could not well have a worthier leader.

The very use of this word "profession" suggests what is probably the most striking fact of all in the history of the American library movement. Twenty-five years ago, people thought of a librarian as a custodian of books, usually a helpless sort of person as far as practical affairs were concerned, and not infrequently a crusty one. To speak of his occupation as a profession was to use strange language, and to make one look askance at the speaker. And indeed, there were then few professional librarians to be found. But the pioneer work which was being done by Poole and Winsor, together with a few of their contemporaries, has since then borne rich fruit, and librarianship is now a professional calling in as exact and distinct a sense as is the occupation of the lawyer or the physician. It has its professional schools and associations, its professional ideals and ethical principles, just as the bar and the pulpit have them, and may be taken up as a life vocation with the same certainty that opportunity for its exercise will be found, and that success will be the reward of exceptional ability.

This settlement of the librarian's status has been made, as we have already mentioned, during the last quarter of a century. A good many other things of importance to the profession have also been done during the same period, such, for example, as the establishment and maintenance of "The Library Journal," the formation of the American Library Association, and the adoption of enlightened library legislation by a large number of the States. The decade of the seventies witnessed the beginnings of all three of these movements, for, although there were library laws before that time, the Illinois statute of 1872 set a new pace, and placed the public library upon a more substantial foundation than had before supported it. When we speak of the advance in library economy and administration, and of the methods by which libraries have increased their helpfulness for all classes of users, we are at a loss to know where to begin in the enumeration of things done. A rough list will include State commissions, travelling libraries, open shelves, popular lectures, children's departments, delivery stations, the extension of service into the schools, annotated lists for readers, and cooperative methods of cataloguing. To the outsider, these terms mean little that is definite, but to the close observer of recent library activities, each of them connotes an agency of approved educational value, and a development to which a volume might easily be devoted.

One result of all this multiplication of activities is, however, sure to impress the most casual observer, and is equally sure of being misunderstood. In the old days, the funds of a library were largely devoted to the purchase of books; in our own times, the purchase of books seems to have become a matter of minor importance. It is rather startling to learn that the Boston Public Library, for every dollar of its income that goes into books, spends ten dollars in other ways, yet such is about the proportion that must be exhibited by the budget of any institution of the size of one of our great city libraries. Nor will one thoroughly conversant with the services performed through the agency of a modern library building, and by the labors of its trained staff, find it possible to deny that the ten dollars are as wisely and usefully expended as the one. The scholar may object, but public libraries are not for the benefit of the scholar alone, and the class to which he belongs, at any rate, gets as large a share of their benefits as any other class. Indeed, no collection of books can be of much value to the community as a whole, unless the means for exploiting it, and for bringing it to

bear upon every form of intellectual need and craving, are provided quite as generously as are the books themselves. Every library, for example, soon reaches a point at which a few thousand dollars may far more judiciously be expended upon the preparation of an expert catalogue than upon any additions, however urgently demanded, to its stores. It is difficult for a layman to see this, but to the initiated, it becomes a proposition so obvious as to need no demonstration.

The public library of the twentieth century is not going to abandon any of the methods, worked out in so painstaking a fashion, by which our public collections of books have been made second in educational importance to the public schools alone. They will all be developed still further in the direction of helpfulness, of the bridging over of difficulties, and of the stimulation of an interest in reading among all classes. To them still other methods will be added from time to time, even at the cost of still further lessening the funds with which books are bought, for the purpose of a library is not to preserve books, but to circulate them. And approval of the methods of modern professional librarianship will continue to be evidenced, as in the past, and in a constantly growing ratio, by increased public support and by the still greater multiplication of generous private foundations. Our country leads the world in the use that it makes of public libraries, and it is going to maintain the leadership already won by every means that are now devised, or may hereafter be devised. We have no intention of going into prophesy at this time, but we will venture one prediction, to the effect that the next marked development of library activity will be found in the schools, and that books will be brought to bear upon the studies of young people to an extent, and with beneficial results, of which few educators now dream. When the use of books comes to have as important a part in the work of the historical and literary group of studies as the use of the microscope and the balance now has in the scientific group of studies - when in every school the library shall be as well provided as the laboratory now is - then the next important step in education will have been made, and men will wonder why it should have been left for the twentieth century to make. We content ourselves here with this general statement, reserving a more detailed and specific treatment of the subject for some future occasion.

#### A LOOK AT THE HISTORICAL NOVEL.

Amending a familiar thought, a novel is a picture of life seen through the prism of an author's mind. When the picture seems to us clear and true, we recognize its technical excellence; and if in addition it has the interest that attaches to a truthful transcript of action, passion, character, and thought,

we call the picture a great one.

Amid the discussions which centre around the historical novel, it appears strange that no more effort has been made to differentiate it from the others. It seems taken for granted that an historical novel is — an historical novel; but the varying treatment of the theme shows the widely differing ideas which exist on the subject. A distinction would be useful, and should not be exceedingly hard to make. Any novel is certainly in one sense historical, but by carrying out logically the common and somewhat hazy idea we can arrive at a definition that carries with it the necessary distinction. Should we not consider the true historical novel as one which has to do with people seeming to have had a part in the greater events, the larger forces, that make history?

To illustrate the distinction carried in this definition, look at "Cranford" and "Hugh Wynne." Probably the former is a more truthful, as it certainly is a more convincing, picture of bygone days than the latter; but one would not think of classing

them together.

Of the novels of history accessible to English readers there are few indeed which can be placed in the front rank; for many a work which would reach this place is barred by a lack of one or more of the essential characteristics, among which are good workmanship, a convincing portrayal of life, a life in the main current of events. The fatal defect, and the most common, is the absence of that spirit which would give us the innate motif of the time. Take for an example "Ivanhoe," one of the most celebrated novels in the language. The story is most interesting, the picture is clear, it has the interest that attaches to well-drawn action and character; but its people are moderns, living partially the mediæval life; we get from the book hardly the slightest inkling of the basic brutishness and savagery of the time. That chivalry which was only a fall of lace on the dirty clothing of society is transformed by the touch of the wizard's pen into the fabric itself. The fault is characteristic both of Scott and of the great school which has followed in his footsteps, though all will admit that we owe to this school some splendid stories. Kingsley's best works, "Hypatia," "Westward-Ho," and "Hereward," have this same lack; but it seems certain that had Kingsley not been so hampered by his profession and his public, his work would stand in the foreground, for he had in him much of the artistic essence, and red blood runs in the veins of his people.

Consider for a moment two novels which cer-

tainly do stand in the foreground of literature. "The Three Musketeers" is a model in its way, but the ground on which the heroes stand we feel to be a little uncertain; a glowing, shifting haze hangs over and between us and "the immortal three who were four." Still, it would take greater faults than these to displace so good a story. other, "Henry Esmond," of all the acknowledged standards, should probably be placed first, for it has almost every element which goes to the making of the ideal historical novel. Of course, Thackeray shrinks from a full portrayal; but the real life is so suggested where it cannot be told, the action and plot are so interesting, the characters are so clearcut, the men and events treated are so important to the period, that the novel is practically above criticism, and to many it has seemed above successful rivalry.

But in the universe of letters a new planet has swum into the ken of recent observers. now a writer who perhaps more fully than any other has met the requirements of a literary masterpiece, and that man is the Polish author, Sienkiewicz. He who has not yet made the acquaintance of the trilogy, "With Fire and Sword," "The Deluge," and "Pan Michael," has before him the pleasure of reading works almost unique, that carry out nearly to perfection the idea of a great historical novel - putting before us, in a light as vivid as our latter day ideas will permit us to enjoy, the life of the past. These stories oft-times lack delicacy of touch and finish; they have incidents that seem needlessly brutal and reach the limits of our indulgence; they treat of life and character so alien that at first thought they seem unreal. Yet we soon know that we are seeing life as men lived it, that the author is a creator of people who live and move and have being. We find characters drawn with an unerring hand; we come to understand that a master of masters is putting before us the rush and sweep of great events, the elemental passions, all the vital constituents of the life of the time of which he treats.

We have some new friends when we have finished these stories. There is that "combination of Ulysses and Falstaff," Zagloba, with his unfailing resource and wit, with the most human and laughable and lovable admixture of courage and cowardice, of selfishness and generosity, a character destined to live among the few immortal creations of fiction. There is that whole company of noblemen, imbued with the strangest compound of religion and savagery, of singlemindedness and subtlety, men of a race whose spirit is in many ways repellant to us, yet which compels our admiration and respect, for it formed the bulwark between Europe and the powers of darkness.

There is hardly an indistinct character amid them all, nor among those charming women whom they loved and whom we love. Above all, there is Pan Michael, whose fortunes we follow through the trilogy—the little man who never met his match with the sword (and that not from lack of trying); the faithful friend, the devoted lover of his king, his country, and woman. Here is a man whom we love as we do D'Artagnan and for the same reason, which is that our hearts go out to him who is not too far removed from earth, a man who boldly and fearlessly works out his fate. We have a sense of something lacking in a hero like Henry Esmond. Who of us does not feel some sympathy with Beatrix when she tells him he would have gotten along better with her had he not been on his knees to her so much.

Sienkiewicz's later and more popular "Quo Vadis" is far inferior as a novel to any one of the trilogy, though one must recognize the power of the descriptions, the strength of the characters — especially that of Petronius — and the realism of the whole, this last being the crucial test. The novel in which Sienkiewicz has last been presented to English readers, "The Knights of the Cross," is hardly up to the standard of his best, though strong and fine in every way.

The impression made by Sienkiewicz is best characterized by saying that after almost any other novelist one feels that he has been looking at a picture, or at best at a "moving picture." After Sienkiewicz one feels that he has looked on life.

ALFRED SUMNER BRADFORD.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

#### SOME NEGLECTED MATERIAL IN ANTI-SLAVERY LITERATURE.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

Professor Barrett Wendell, in his "Literary History of America," seems to have neglected certain obvious opportunities in dealing with the literary history of the Anti-Slavery agitation. There died in Ohio as far back as 1833, Charles B. Storrs, President of Western Reserve College, who was the real pioneer of the remarkable Anti-Slavery or Abolition movement in that part of the country, which soon involved Giddings and Wade. Yet Professor Wendell, who devotes much space not simply to Anti-Slavery literature, but to the Anti-Slavery agitation in general, has not a word for Storrs, whose services for the cause in the West were fully recognized by the New England workers for that same cause, as is shown by Whittier's beautiful elegy. This brings me to the Harvard professor's omission of a literary landmark which is unexplainable, as it was not a Western but a distinctly New England landmark. The author dwells at length and most interestingly on Mrs. Stowe's epoch-marking "Uncle Tom's Cabin," but he makes not the slightest allusion to the initial literary work of the propaganda. In 1833, the same year when Storrs, the pioneer of Abolition in Ohio, died, Mrs. Lydia Maria Child (nee Francis), a native of Massachusetts, published "An Appeal for That Class of Americans Called Africans," which was the first Anti-Slavery book published in America. may not be generally known as such, - for Allibone does not so state, nor does he give the exact title of the book, nor any date whatsoever, — but the fact is incontestible, and as such of course deserving of a place in the literary history of the country. That it has none in the work of Professor Wendell, taken in conjunction with numerous other important omissions, may seem to some an indication of inconsiderate haste on his part, and to a certain extent to detract from the dignity of history, titularly claimed for his work.

ALFRED MATHEWS. Philadelphia, January 23, 1901.

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A DISTRESSING MISQUOTATION.
(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

It is probable that the Anthology of Mr. Stedman will be regarded by the judicious as proof of the poverty of our American poetic lore rather than as convincing evidence of our riches. It will be generally conceded, however, that Edgar Allen Poe was a real poet; only his contributions are so small. But one of his most characteristic and attractive gems is marred in Mr. Stedman's book by one of the most diabolical blunders of misquotation in all the annals of printing; and this will be copied no doubt unwittingly many times. I refer to the lines "To One in Paradise":

"And all my days are trances,
And all my nightly dreams
Are where thy dark eye glances
And where thy footstep gleams—
In what ethereal dances,
By what eternal streams."

Instead of "dark eye" Mr. Stedman has "gray eye"!

"Gray eye glances"! That distressing alliteration would have ruined the fame of Milton.

Little Rock, Ark., January 22, 1901.

### The Rew Books.

#### A MODERN STOIC.\*

The story is told of the third Earl of Shaftesbury that, rising to make his maiden speech in Parliament on the bill allowing counsel to a prisoner accused of treason, he became so embarrassed and confused as to break down altogether; but being encouraged by the House to go on, he made a great impression by the ingenuous remark: "If I, sir, who rise only to speak my opinion on the bill now depending, am so confounded that I am unable to express the least of what I proposed to say, what must the condition of that man be who is pleading for his life without any assistance and under apprehension of being deprived of it?" This happy turn pleased his listeners extremely, and was thought to have done more toward passing the bill than any of the more solid arguments advanced in its support. The incident is char-

<sup>\*</sup>THE LIFE, UNPUBLISHED LETTERS, AND PHILOSOPHICAL REGIMEN OF ANTHONY, EARL OF SHAFFESBURY. Edited by Benjamin Rand, Ph.D. New York: The Macmillan Company.

acteristic of the man, and stamps him as a worthy predecessor to the noble and philanthropic seventh Earl of Shaftesbury, his more famous descendant.

Dr. Rand's volume on the third Lord Shaftesbury deals far less with the public life of the Earl than with that inward growth revealed by his philosophical writings and private correspondence. Indeed, his delicate constitution prevented him from engaging actively in politics, although he seems to have made his mark in Parliament, and was offered the secretaryship of state by King William, whose trusted adviser he continued to be for some years. He died an early death in 1713, within a few weeks of his forty-second birthday. His son's biography of him, first published in Bayle's "General Dictionary," and now reprinted, with some additions from the biographer's manuscripts, in this volume, and Series V. of the Shaftesbury Papers, preserved in the Record Office, are the chief sources of our information regarding the Earl. Dr. Rand devotes nearly half of his portly volume to the Letters, rather more than half to the "Philosophical Regimen," and fourteen pages to the brief "Life," - all, excepting the letters to Locke and the biography, being published for the first time from the Shaftesbury Papers.

To the non-classical student the book may seem to bristle formidably with Greek and Latin quotations, but a second glance will show that these are nearly all translated or paraphrased, so that his alarm is groundless. To the lover of the classics the volume will have a flavor of old-fashioned scholarship not ungrateful in an age which sees the editor of a leading English literary review gravely referring to the temple of Janus as closed in time of war, and an editorial writer in one of our own most scholarly journals ascribing the "Miles Gloriosus" to Terence. The disciple of Epictetus and Marcus Aurelius will be glad to give the "Philosophical Regimen" a place beside the "Enchiridion" and the "Meditations." The key-note of the work is struck in the essay on "Improvement," where, after referring to the practice of making memoranda for various less worthy uses, the author continues:

"Would one think of making any for Life? Would one think that this were a business to improve in? What if this should be the thing of all others chosen out for a pocket-book and memorandums? But so it is. . . . Begin therefore and work upon this subject. Collect, digest, methodize, abstract. How many codes,

how many volumes, how much labour, and what compiling in the study of other laws? But in the law of life how? They who seek not any such in life, nor think that there is any rule, what are they better than vulgar?"

It is to be regretted that the style of the work is so largely that of the note-book, in which occasional memoranda are jotted down with little regard to literary form. Nearly always labored and often bombastic in his utterance, the author has repelled rather than attracted readers. Even his once famous "Characteristics" has long lain neglected. Yet we should not forget that he was admired in his own century by such critics as Hurd and Blair. That he should have had so little of Addison's elegance, of Swift's perspicuity, simplicity, and strength, of Steele's ease and vivacity, - and all three of these were his immediate contemporaries, - is somewhat surprising. But occasionally his manner is hardly less admirable than his matter, as when, treating of the passions, he writes thus aptly and forcibly concerning "Joy":

"There is one sort of joy which is flerce, eager, boisterous, impetuous, restless, which carries with it a sort of insatiableness, rage, madness, sting; and which afterwards is followed by disgust and discontent. There is another sort of joy which is soft, still, peaceable, serene, which has no mixture or alloy; of which there is no excess, but the more it is felt, the more perfect and refined it grows, the more content and satisfaction it yields through the whole of life. To the first of these a thousand things are necessary, a thousand outward and casual circumstances concurring, the least of which being removed, or ceasing, it also must cease. To the second there is nothing necessary but what depends upon ourselves."

It adds much to the weight of Shaftesbury's counsels to know that he practised what he preached, so far as we can learn from his contemporaries; and thus his lumbering periods make an impression where a Seneca's rhetorical flights of would-be stoicism fail to convince. "Perhaps no modern," writes Toland in his introduction to the Shaftesbury letters, "ever turned the ancients more into sap and blood, as they say, than he. Their doctrines he understood as well as themselves, and their virtues he practised better." "Just as Spinoza was 'God-intoxicated,'" says the Earl's latest editor, "so Shaftesbury was 'intoxicated with the idea of virtue.' He is the greatest Stoic of modern times. Into his own life he wrought the stoical virtue for virtue's sake. This exalted purpose he sought to attain by means of this Regimen. . . . The Greek slave, the Roman emperor, and the English nobleman must abide the three great exponents of stoical philosophy."

Lord Shaftesbury's influence on the men of his time was considerable. Voltaire calls him the boldest of English philosophers — perhaps questionable praise — and Diderot's "Essai sur le Mérite et la Vertu" is a free translation of the Earl's "Inquiry concerning Virtue." He enjoyed the friendship of Locke, Pope, Lord Somers, Lord Halifax, and many others eminent either in literature or in public affairs. His reputation as a free-thinker hurt him in some quarters, but his wholesome influence for liberality of thought and freedom of inquiry could not have been other than widespread.

The letters, with which the volume closes, though they have not the charm of the great letter-writers, are yet interesting reading. Their formality and stately courtesy—even his own mother he always addresses as "your ladyship"—are characteristic of the period, but a little chilling to the reader, and a little tiresome.

A book, Dr. Johnson declares, should help us to enjoy life or to endure it. This noteworthy contribution to the literature of stoicism is well fitted for the latter purpose, nor, we believe, will its perusal entirely fail of accomplishing the former.

PERCY FAVOR BICKNELL.

#### HOMER IN THE VULGAR TONGUE.\*

The adequate translation of Homer is doubtless the most imperative task set, for the classical scholar, in the interests of general culture. Very few men can ever have, and even fewer can retain, an accurate knowledge of the Greek poem. Indeed the specialist himself reaches only one certainty: that he does not possess, and can never restore, the original text. The Homeric vocabulary is very large, and the meanings of many words are merely surmised, or are still fought over. Yet in the history of poetry, in mythology, even in sociological and ethnological studies, the Iliad and Odyssey must always be of peculiar and unique importance. They are the first chapters in the history of European culture. We should have an interpretation, and a comment, by a syndicate of scholars, which would have for the layman such authority as the Revised Version now enjoys.

The present reviewer believes firmly that the poetic tone and spirit, and also the unit of the line or verse, are indispensable elements in every great poem. Hence Longfellow's Dante, which attempts to preserve both, is a better-directed effort than Mr. Norton's version, which wholly abandons the metrical form. Voss's line-for-line German version of Iliad and Odyssey is almost ideal.

But the general voice of our generation seems adverse to all this. The translation of Homer probably best-known in America is still the dignified, musical, rather slow work of the poet Bryant's old age. To the eye his rendering is "blank verse," and the ten-syllable line is quite too short to express the average contents of an Homeric hexameter. For the ear this verse has no well-defined close, and is indeed often plain prose. Furthermore, the most notable recent renderings have been avowedly prosaic. Mr. Lang and his partners still retained an archaic flavor, and somewhat elevated diction. Mr. Palmer descended to the simplest and most direct forms of contemporary English. Mr. Samuel Butler has taken a much longer stride down the same slope. He has deliberately emptied each phrase of all noble allusiveness or charm, and gives us the blunt fact in vulgar colloquial words. We do not think he would himself quarrel with this statement.

A typical instance is Odyssey, Book V., vss. 154-5, with its inimitable antithesis. Bryant indicates the contrast poetically, though he does not attempt the artistic repetition of the last word:

"Night after night He slept constrained within the hollow cave, The unwilling by the fond."

Butcher and Lang rise to the occasion, and expanding slightly give us: "Howsoever by night he would sleep by her, as needs he must, in the hollow caves, unwilling lover by a willing lady." Mr. Palmer has a similar rendering. Mr. Butler offers us: "He had got tired of Calypso, and though he was forced to sleep with her in the cave by night, it was she, not he, would have it so." Words like "hurryskurrying," phrases like "There is no accounting for luck," were never meant to suggest poetry. The clearest note, perhaps, is struck at II. 20, where Antiphos, a companion of Odysseus, is mentioned. "The savage Cyclops killed him in the cave, and on him made a supper last of all," says Mr. Palmer. There may be a bit of tragic irony here, in that poor

<sup>\*</sup>THE ODYSSEY. Rendered into English Prose by Samuel Butler. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

Antiphos just failed to escape with the rest of the crew. Mr. Butler actually makes it read that the Cyclops "cooked his (Antiphos') last meal for him," and comments thus: "So we vulgarly say 'had cooked his goose' or 'had settled his hash.'" If this is the mature result of literal prose translation, let us by all means "hurry-skurry" back to Pope, with his deftlymanaged clattering pair of stilts!

It is fair to say that this well-printed version seems based on competent study of Greek, is as a rule carefully and faithfully done, and in the notes the translator shows personal familiarity with Mediterranean lands. The discussion of passages borrowed more or less awkwardly from the Iliad into the younger poem is often acute and stimulating, though it is startling to hear this spoken of as a newly-discovered or

unworked vein of scholarship.

Mr. Butler announces this translation as a supplement to his "The Authoress of the Odyssey," published in 1897. This was an attempt to demonstrate that the Odyssey was written by a girl, who lived at Trapani on the west coast of Sicily, that all Odysseus' adventures really amounted to a mere circumnavigation of that island: - and that the authoress has put in Nausicaa as a flattering portrait of herself. He announces in the preface to the present volume that no serious criticism of these theses has reached him, and yet he by no means thinks that "scholars generally acquiesce in " his conclusions. Both these latter statements are doubtless true, and will probably remain no less so. Even the inventor himself, at least in this book, keeps up the discussion in a rather bantering spirit, calling attention to feminine inconsistency, girlish shyness and ignorance, etc., in the Odyssean passages which seem to make for his novel and air-spun theory.

Facing p. 72 are two photographic views of S. Cusumano's salt-works, a sort of dyke on the flat Sicilian shore. The former tidal inlet, now silted up, is, it seems, the original for the beautiful river into which Ulysses swam, to land safely on the Scherian shore. But the same place was introduced, it further appears, in three other sets of passages in the Odyssey, as (1) the harbor of Rheithron in Ithaca, (2) the place where Ulysses landed in Ithaca, (3) the place where Telemachus landed in Ithaca, All these shrivel to a little muddy silted-up Sicilian tideway: ex uno disce omnia.

WILLIAM CRANSTON LAWTON.

#### A POETIC DRAMA.\*

Critics are very apt to object strongly to what they call "closet plays." They sometimes call them "literary dramas," but that name is not a very good one, for it seems to deny the literary element in many dramas which are meant for the stage and very well suited to it. By whatever name called, however, the theatrical critic looks askance on the drama written by a man who writes because he wants to, even though he sees no particular chance of having his play presented. A recent writer deplores the "literary drama" and the fascination it had for the great English poets of the nineteenth century: he says it has a paralysing effect, although it is not clear upon whom.

The critic, however, who is more apt to read plays than to see them, may well wonder at such a view. We have, for instance, among other books, "Ghost of Rosalys" by Mr. Charles Leonard Moore. We should regret to regard it as something not worth doing, something of a paralysing effect. Indeed it was worth doing and it has no such effect. Some closet plays, doubtless, are really very bad: when the poet divorces himself from all possibility of stage presentation, he perhaps feels a lack of restraint that is demoralizing. But after all it can hardly be a certainty with any play that it will not be presented. "Faust" has been presented many times; the second part as well as the first. "Manfred" has been often presented, and that very effectively. "Brand" has been given a number of times. Almost anything can be presented if there are people who wish to present it. It is true that when presented, it may not be successful, for there may not be anyone that wants to see it. But then, such is the case with some plays written expressly for the stage.

There is really no very strict criterion of a closet play. The only condition (and a simple one it is) is that the writer shall have before him the absolute impossibility of stage presentation. Such was the case, probably, with Shelley in writing "Prometheus Unbound"; possibly with Swinburne in "Atalanta in Calydon." But the greater number of what are generally thought of as literary dramas are plays that one can imagine on the stage. We can imagine Mr. Moore's play on the stage: indeed, we have done so with pleasure. The

<sup>\*</sup>GHOST OF ROSALYS: A Play. By Charles Leonard Moore. Philadelphia: Printed for the Author.

fact that an audience of our day might not much care to see it, if it were presented, has little to do with the matter. An audience of our day would not care for many of Shakespeare's plays, nor did the audience for which Shakespeare's plays were originally written care for them more than they did for a good many other plays now forgotten save by readers. The test of a closet play cannot go much farther than has been indicated: if the writer has had a general view to stage conditions, then it is not a closet play that he writes, no matter how literary it may be and no matter how little " stage technique" it may have. Stage technique may be needful for a successful presentation, just as types and ink are needed to make a book. But both are trivial matters. as is clear when we think how little stage technique avails Massinger, Congreve, Robertson to-day, - just about as little and as much as types and ink.

That a play is not written expressly for the stage, that it is not meant for immediate performance, that it has not been presented anywhere,—these things, then, are not reasons why we may not have something very good. The fact of a successful stage presentation is nothing in favor of a play nowadays; it should, on the other hand, warn us against a play. If we hear that a play has been successfully presented, the chances are that it is a bad play. "Cyrano de Bergerac" succeeded, but so did "The Christian," and more plays are like the latter than like the former.

Hence, we may read with pleasure—if we like poetry—several plays which have been of late published by American writers. Mr. Moody's "Masque of Judgment," Professor Raymond's "The Aztec God," Mrs. Fields's "Orpheus," Mr. Moore's play which we have mentioned,—with these books we have a possibility of finding something charming and attractive, that is lacking when we read Mr. Fitch's "Barbara Frietchie" or Mr. Thomas's "Arizona." These latter plays have already charmed and attracted in the way for which they were intended; as books they are like pressed flowers that have no sentimental associations.

After all—aside from the possibility of a closet play—why should a poet not put his ideas in dramatic form? It is surely a convenience, in that it enables him, if he wishes, to present certain essential dramatic elements and to omit a great many other elements of which he does not feel the need. The dramatic

form allows one to hold the attention close to the development of the idea without the distraction of description or comment. It has its drawbacks in return for these advantages, but used with proper regard for its proper characteristics the drama is undoubtedly a powerful literary form as well as a valuable theatrical attraction.

This play of Mr. Moore's was presumably not written for the stage, but it is not a play in which the author has neglected theoretical possibilities. Whether it could be successfully presented is neither here nor there; it could be presented, undoubtedly, if there were enough persons who wished to present it, and it would be successful if enough persons were found who wished to see it. And as this is about all that one could say of any play which had not yet made its appearance on the stage, we may therefore neglect the question of presentation until the play is performed.

Mr. Moore has written his play almost entirely in verse, which is not a very common thing just now; in verse which though occasionally rough, is yet sustained with unflagging vitality and spirit, and which by its flowing movement and its adaptive character carries the reader along with it. He puts aside the stillness of a uniform metre, and as one scene changes to another we find the rhythm varying harmoniously with the thought. In some places he is less fortunate than in others, but on the whole the device is eminently successful. And although the question of the stage be dismissed, it may be allowable to point out, not so much that the stage of our day loses something by practically excluding verse (Ibsen, Maeterlinck, D'Annunzio, Pinero, and, in the main, Hauptmann and Sudermann, on the one hand, and Rostand and Stephen Phillips on the other), as that the verse of a drama generally gains by declamation. Mr. Moore's verse may be read aloud with pleasure (indeed, should be), although here and there it is not so fervent as elsewhere.

It is a romantic drama. That might be inferred from the adaptive rhythms and the rhymes. The clear definiteness of our English blank verse gives somewhat the effect of the marble material of a statue, unless it be so much broken up as to become merely pulsating prose. Romantic in form it is and also romantic in general treatment, that is, its main idea is presented not definitely and simply, but with an exuberance of accessory figure and ornament that often rather veils the idea than presents

it. Still, the main figures are striking: Joyeux the imaginative, and his three coadjutors, the scientist, the priest, the poet. These last are not presented with a firm enough conception of character to vitalize them everywhere, but they serve what is perhaps their chief purpose,—to carry us to the end of the first and longest act and give us the idea that is to be developed. The imagination has its ideal, which is to be realized in love and at the point of realization vanishes away. Rosalys dies and Joyeux is, for the time, led away by witch will o' the wisps. But in the last act he revives his old-time love; Rosalys rises for a brief half hour, and when she again passes away he goes with her.

Presumably Mr. Moore had not definitely in mind more than to create certain passionate figures and to embody a poetic feeling. Implicit in such presentation is, however, an idea, or perhaps we should not call it more than a sentiment. Our attention is aroused and held by the ideas that gather in our minds around this figure of the imaginative man and his effort to give form to his imaginings, his strivings with the impossible, his deception at the hands of vulgar cheats. But whither does all tend? Mr. Moore does not seem to have his problem clearly in mind. At least we find no real solution.

But no play should be judged as an allegory unless it be frankly conceived as such. This play is not: it presents to us romantic figures, which do something to arouse ideas in our mind as all figures must. But it is better merely to take the people as people and to lose oneself in the story of emotion and exaltation, and to be content with an adumbration here and there of the wider meaning beyond. We do not, ourselves, fully appreciate the full purport of the third act. But the poetry of the first act especially, and of the last, carried us well along over whatever did not make its appeal.

To write a play and in verse is rather a daring thing—although now there are a number to keep one in countenance—but Mr. Moore has come well through all dangers with his venture.

EDWARD E. HALE, JR.

Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD's acting version of "King Henry V.," as lately produced with marked success, is published in a most attractively-printed volume by Messrs. McClure, Phillips & Co. An Introduction by Mr. Mansfield, some notes on the heraldry of the play, and two photogravure illustrations, are included.

#### SOME RECENT BOOKS OF TRAVEL.

As in this age more people travel, and travel more often, and to more distant places, books of travel must correspondingly increase. But the more be-travelled our sphere the less becomes the opportunity for a really new book dealing with the previously unknown and telling of strange men and beasts. All the books in our present group treat of parts of the earth more or less familiar from the writings of previous travellers; yet these books have all of them a certain raison d'être, — either in the personality of the writer, the timeliness of the subject, or the general utility of the whole work.

Mr. G. W. James's hand-book to that wonderful region, "In and around the Grand Canyon," comes largely under the last head. "A canyon," says the author,

"Is not a deep, narrow, gloomy gorge, into which the sun fails to shine even at midday. It is, in reality, a series of canyons one within and below the other. Picture one canyon, a thousand feet deep and ten or twelve miles across; below this, another canyon, but two miles less in width and a thousand feet deeper than number one; then still another, two thousand feet deeper and four miles narrower, followed by yet another, deeper still and more miles narrower, until the inner gorge of granite is reached, through which the roaring river flows, and you will have a better idea than ever before."

This describes the Grand Canyon, but many

This describes the Grand Canyon, but many canyons are by Mr. James's own account narrow and gloomy. After a general description of the Colorado region and some historical chapters, Mr. James takes up the Grand Canyon and its tributaries in detail. He regards the Bridal Veil Falls in the Havasu as the "Most exquisitely beautiful waterfall in the world.

\*In and around the Grand Canyon. By George Wharton James. Illustrated. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. Between the Andes and the Ocean. By William Eleroy Curtis. Illustrated. Chicago: H. S. Stone & Co.

A SUMMER JOURNEY TO BRAZIL. By Alice R. Humphrey. Illustrated. New York: Bonnell, Silver & Co.

THE PARADISE OF THE PACIFIC. By G. Waldo Browne. Illustrated. Boston: Dana Estes & Co.

THE PEABL OF THE ORIENT. By G. Waldo Browne. Illustrated. Boston: Dana Estes & Co.

SPANISH HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS. By Katharine Lee Bates. Illustrated. New York: The Macmillan Co.

Among THE BERBERS. By Anthony Wilkin. Illustrated.
New York: Cassell & Co., Ltd.

St. Kilda. By Norman Heathcote. Illustrated. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

AN AMERICAN GIRL'S TRIF TO THE ORIENT AND AROUND THE WORLD. By Christine Collbran. Illustrated. Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co.

FALAISE, THE TOWN OF THE CONQUEROR. By Anna Bowman Dodd. Illustrated. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. FORBIDDEN PATHS IN THE LAND OF OG. Illustrated. Chicago: Fieming H, Revell Co. There is nothing in the Yosemite that, for rich delicacy of beauty and rare combination of charms, can equal it. On the left and right are towering cliffs, two thousand feet high, of red sandstone. At your feet is rich green grass, and a delicate gauzy growth, as fine as asparagus grass, which covers the ground with fairy-like lace and makes a carpet fit for a 'Midsummer Night's Dream' dance. Above, just on the edge of the fall, are several trees, rich with their new dress of spring leaves, with the red mountains and azure sky, as richly blue as that of the Mediterranean. . . . Now, with such a background, enjoy the fall — Wa-Hath-peek-ha-ha."

Mr. James gives some account of the Havasupai Indians in the canyon district, and an intensely interesting narrative is given of Mr. Bass's experiences in attempting to reach these Indians. The work is to be recommended to the general reader and to the tourist. The quotations are extensive, and the illustrations are numerous and excellent.

Mr. W. E. Curtis has collected his South American letters to the Chicago "Record" into a volume which he entitles "Between the Andes and the Ocean," describing all the western countries from Panama to Patagonia. Mr. Curtis gives quite a full account of the Panama Canal.

"The advocates of the Panama canal lay great stress upon the fact that it has a good harbor at either end, capable of receiving the largest ships, while the Nicaragua canal has none, and the two that must be built present serious engineering difficulties; that a good railroad is now in operation along the entire route of the Panama canal, while one will have to be constructed in Nicaragua; that the supreme difficulties of the Panama route have already been developed and overcome, while those of the Nicaragua route are unknown; that nothing of an experimental character is proposed on the Panama canal, while several projects in the Nicaragua scheme involve elements of novelty that are without precedent; that the length of the Panama canal is only forty-six miles, while that of Nicaragua is four times as great; that there are no volcanos on the isthmus, while there are several in Nicaragua; that earthquakes are practically unknown here, while in Nicaragua they are frequent; that the concession from the government of Columbia for the Panama canal is complete and satisfactory and there is only one nation to deal with, while two nations must be consulted in everything that involves the Nicaragua canal, and the concessions are complicated with conditions that are likely to prove embarrassing."

There is some historical matter in Mr. Curtis's book, but the main topic treated is the industrial, social, and political life of the people. The volume forms, on the whole, a very readable description of the Western South America of to-day. There are a number of illustrations and a fair index, but no map.

"A Summer Journey to Brazil," by Miss Alice R. Humphrey, is a brief and pleasant record of a trip to Rio Janeiro, Pernambuco, Bahia, Petropolis Sanctos, and Sao Paolo. The author has some sharp criticism for the U. S. consular service at Sanctos, and her chapter on this subject ends with this quotation from a letter written by an American in Sao Paolo, dated July 6, 1900:

"What does our government mean by sending out an Italian Priest as Consul to Santos? If he were only a priest who had practically withdrawn from active functions, it would not be so bad; but this one makes it his first duty to visit the newspapers and declare that he will not allow the duties of the consulate to interfere with his higher ecclesiastical functions, and as a proof of this, he left the duties of the office yesterday and came up to say a thirtieth day Mass for the soul of a person connected with the 'Diario Popular,' and had it advertised far and near."

As far as it goes the book is a useful and readable sketch, and contains a number of appendices of value.

Under the title "The Paradise of the Pacific" Mr. G. Waldo Browne gives us a short general account of the Hawaiian Islands. The volume includes a description of the islands, a résumé of their history, with special chapters on the religious history, and an account of the present status. The condition of the Japanese and Chinese have particular mention.

"The Japanese appear to be the disturbing factor in the islands at present. There are many educated and intelligent Japanese on the islands, who are prominent in business and have thrifty homes, but the class most largely drawn hither is ignorant, impetuous, and hard to control. If industrious they are ambitious, and, seeing better than the Chinese the real inwardness of their situation, are dissatisfied with it, waiting, watching for the opportunity to strike a blow at the power which attempts to hold them in check. There is too much of the Yankee about them to be held long in surveillance, and, with their high percentage of population, what the outcome is to be is hard to forecast, though probably no cause for serious alarm."

The book is popular in tone and profusely illustrated.

A companion volume to the book just noticed bears the rather fanciful title "The Pearl of the Orient." It is a brief compilation of matter relating to the Philippine Islands, and while popular in tone is fairly accurate on matters of fact. There are chapters on the geography and history of the islands, on the animals, on the resources, and the volume closes with a chapter on "America in the Orient." The bola or native knife is thus described:

"The most common type used in warfare is between two and three feet in length, including the handle, and has a wide, thick blade edged like a guillotine. When wielded by a fanatic Philippino in the heat of battle, it is a formidable instrument of death, which is capable of cutting a human head clear from its seat at a single blow, split the body from shoulder to hip, or cleave the skull in twain. At the call to charge, these native troops discard all other weapons and spring to the wild attack hand to hand, wielding the bola with terrible effect." The illustrations are profuse and well-printed.

In Miss Christine Collbran's account of "An American Girl's Trip to the Orient and around the World" we have the fresh impressions of a young person conveyed pleasantly enough in a very familiar epistolary style. One amusing incident the author thus describes:

"While out walking I met a sort of procession, marching down one of the streets of Yokohama, which amused me immensely. It consisted of fifteen or twenty men carrying long poles with white banners fastened to them, or with a mock rooster perched on the top, followed by a brass band of about eight instruments, playing, or rather trying to play, 'Marching through Georgia.' Each man seemed to be playing just as he felt, and their laudable endeavors to express their different moods in different keys was not all that could be desired from a musical point of view. Apparently, it did not matter in the least if he were a few notes too high, or too low, or if he were playing faster or slower than the rest; so taking it altogether, I was only just able to recognize our good old campaigners' song. The Japanese, themselves, seemed to be enjoying it thoroughly, if we may judge by the crowds that followed in the wake of this comical band."

The bulk of the book is given to Japan and Korea, other countries receiving but very meager notice.

"Among the Berbers of Algeria," by Mr. Anthony Wilkin, is "a popular record of a journey undertaken with scientific objects." These objects were of an archæological and anthropological nature, the special purpose being "to trace if possible their [the Berbers'] connection with the most ancient races of Egypt by the methods of anthropology, by collections of pottery, of designs, of physical measurements, and by observation of their everyday occupations, and of the monuments of their ancestors." This object the author achieved. The Berbers, unconquered by Roman or Arab, but at length subjugated by the French, are divided into two tribes, the Chawia and Kabylia, both of which were visited by our author. He finds the Berber has many good traits.

"Whether in the olive-clad mountains of Kabylia or the terraces of their Aurasian fastnesses they are white men and in general act like white men. Among them the virtues of honesty, hospitality, and goodnature are conspicuous. It is not their misfortune alone that the lowlands know them no more; not their misfortune only that Mohammedanism has debarred them from entering, as they would otherwise have entered, on the path of European progress and liberality: it is the misfortune of the whole civilized world. Descendants of a mighty race whose culture once spread

from the Atlantic to the Red Sea and the Hauran from Crete to Timbuctoo and the Soudan, there are still to be found among them the vestiges of the arts and sciences, of the spirit of conquest, of the capacity for self-government, which, if developed, would make them again a great nation."

The book is of interest and value as giving us some acquaintance with this little-known race. The illustrations are exceptionally fine.

A pleasant account of that most remote of the British Isles, St. Kilda, is prepared by Mr. Norman Heathcote. This "last of the sea-girt Hebrides" is famed in Britain for its uncouth natives and for its multitude of sea-birds. The author presents a brief history of St. Kilda, followed by chapters on the island as it is to-day, boating and climbing experiences, the birds, and the "St. Kilda of the future." A curious habit of the Fulmar Petrel is thus described":

"On the approach of an enemy, the fulmar squirts oil at him in self-defense. I suppose the operation is of use to them against some of their foes; and though it does not avail them against the St. Kildan fowler, it is on record that one gallant fulmar succeeded in killing a man by this same process. It was not in St. Kilda, and it was some time ago. The said man, being unacquainted with this little habit of the petrel tribe, was so astonished at receiving a stream of nasty-smelling oil in his face that he fell off the ladder, by means of which he had obtained access to the nest, and was killed. My experience is, that it is a very poor sort of weapon, as the range is so short. I doubt if the stream of oil will carry more than a couple of feet on the level."

The illustrations are good, and the author's map is probably the best yet made.

Miss Katharine Lee Bates's "Spanish Highways and Byways" is the vivacious account of a tour along the regular routes, the only "Byway" being a trip through the Basque provinces. The author's impression of the Spaniard is that he is not only not lazy, as often reputed, but intensely active. She gives a graphic picture of a Spanish Carnival.

"Squeaking and gibbering, the maskers, unrebuked, took all manner of saucy liberties. A stately old gentleman rose from his cushion in a crested carriage to observe how gallantly a bevy of ladies were beating off with a hail of confetti and bonbons an imploring cavalier who ran by their wheels, and when he would have resumed his seat he found himself dandled on the knees of a grinning Chinaman. Sometimes a swarm of maskers would beset a favorite carriage, climbing up beside the coachman and snatching his reins, standing on the steps and throwing kisses, lying along the back and twitting the proudest beauty in the ear or making love to the haughtiest. This all-licensed masker, with his monstrous disguise and affected squeal, may be a duke or a doorkeeper. Carnival is democracy."

The book contains a pleasant chapter on the gypsies, and one of some length on the Choral games of Spanish children, a disquisition which

should be of interest to the pædologist. The illustrations are good, but there is neither map nor index.

An enthusiastic, vivacious description of Falaise and its environs by an intimate friend and observer, may be found in Mrs. Anna Bowmon Dodd's volume entitled "Falaise, the Town of the Conqueror." The effect of Normandy landscape is thus described:

"Little by little, the subtle and satisfying charm of this Normandy landscape was producing an effect not wholly new—to me, at least. So penetrating have I felt this charm to be, that in just such Normandy scenes, and just such warm, balmy days, I have had that rarest of human sensations,—a satisfied, completed sense of perfect enjoyment. The man or woman who loves nature, sanely, can be made more entirely content, I believe, in the rich inland parts of this marvelous Normandy province than in any other country."

The author visited the Falaise Fair in a charà-banc, and in brisk style she narrates the scenes there witnessed. A large portion of the volume concerns the history of the city. We have rarely seen better photographic illustrations than those which adorn this book.

"Forbidden Paths in the Land of Og" is the narrative of a trip by three missionaries into the region beyond Jordan. Their expedition was to the west and north of the Sea of Galilee and included visits to Golan, Gadara, Mizpah, and Jerash. Of the latter place, where are found the ruins of the ancient and magnificent Gerasa, the account is quite full and interesting.

"A Greek theatre of the ancient type forms a capital camping-place for modern travellers. Historically it awakens myriad thoughts of regal splendor and Christian martyrdom. Practically it lends itself to the real necessities of the tourists in affording shade and shelter, semi-seclusion, and excellent stabling for the animals. Incongruous as this may sound, —a grand theatre reduced to the level of tourists' conveniences, —yet so it was. Camp was pitched in the midst of the open arena. Round about on three sides rose the semicircle of stone benches, in sixteen tiers, one above another, capable of seating three or four thousand spectators."

The book is full of Biblical allusions, and should be of especial use to Bible students.

HIRAM M. STANLEY.

Mr. W. Garrett Horder's "Treasury of American Sacred Song" is reissued, in an enlarged edition, by Mr. Henry Frowde. Something like thirty new poems are included, but the price of the volume has been reduced. The editor gives a broad meaning to the word "sacred," and this admirable book is far more than a mere collection of hymns. In fact, hymns are rather far to seek in these pages.

WAR AND POLITICS IN SOUTH AFRICA.\*

The wish is father to the thought in nearly all recent books which treat of the war in South Africa. Two of the group before us are from American hands, and attempt to give both sides of the questions involved. Several, from English pens, are interested only in disclosing what their authors saw. The rest are more or less partial to Great Britain, reflecting the attitude to be expected when war excites a nation.

The pamphlet from M. Edmond Desmolins, author of "Anglo-Saxon Superiority," entitled "Boers or English: Who Are in the Right?" is an argument against the rights of a weaker people to national existence, with such qualification as can be given that unpleasant theme by statements such as this: "These great nations must understand that their preëminence is based solely on the fact that they are, for the time being, the most worthy to exercise it," — a complete confusion, it will be noted, of might and right.

"The British Case Against the Boer Republics" is a small document prepared by the Imperial South African Association, chief agent of the Johannesburg mine owners in their campaign of misrepresentation, which was sent by the Bureau of Education to the teachers of the United States during the past summer. It is a brief, giving page and volume of British official documents, intended to supply the British sympathizer with justification for the exter-

\*Boers or English: Who Are in the Right? By Edmond Desmolins. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons.

THE BRITISH CASE AGAINST THE BORR REPUBLICS.

Anonymous. London: The Imperial South African Association.

ON THE EVE OF THE WAR. By Evelyn Cecil, M.P. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons.

SOUTH AFRICA, PAST AND PRESENT. By Violet R. Markham. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons.

IN SOUTH AFRICA WITH BULLER. By George Clarke Musgrave. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co.

THE RELIEF OF LADYSMITH. By John Black Atkins. Boston: L. C. Page & Co.

Beseiged by the Boers. By E. Oliver Ashe, M.D. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

LONDON TO LADYSMITH VIA PRETORIA. By Winston Spencer Churchill. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co. LAN HAMILTON'S MARCH. By Winston Spencer Churchill.

New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

THE BORRS IN WAR. By Howard C. Hillegas. New York:

D. Appleton & Co.

WITH BOTH ARMIES IN SOUTH AFRICA. By Richard Harding Davis. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Lessons of the War. By Spencer Wilkinson. Phila-

delphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

THE GREAT BOER WAR. By A. Conan Doyle. New
York: McClure, Phillips & Co.

THE WAR OFFICE, THE ARMY, AND THE EMPIRE. By H. O. Arnold-Forster, M.P. New York: Cassell & Co., Ltd. THE RISE AND FALL OF KRUGERISM. By John Scoble and H. R. Abercrombie. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co.

THE SETTLEMENT AFTER THE WAE IN SOUTH AFRICA.
By M. J. Farrelly, I.L.D. New York: The Macmillan Co.

mination of the South African Republics. It is purely ex parts, and makes no other pretension.

Mr. Evelyn Cecil is a nephew of the Marquis of Salisbury and a member of parliament. He arrived at Cape Town less than a month before the war broke out, and stayed in South Africa for three months and a half afterward. The opening words of his book, "If England fights she will create for herself a sullen dependency among the Dutch in South Africa," spoken to the author upon his arrival at the Cape, seem to be most nearly prophetic of any of the statements in the volume, which deals with the British side entirely. Some remarks on the administration of Rhodesia are worth reading, as evidence that the Transvaal was brought to bay for doing the very things which the Chartered Company did in a much more extortionate degree.

Just such another book as the foregoing, making necessary allowances for sex and education, is Miss Violet R. Markham's "South Africa, Past and Present." The larger part of the work, however, is a rewriting of the history of the land, with a chapter on "Industrial Johannesburg" supplied by the author's brother, Mr. Arthur Markham. The portly volume requires no extended notice at this time, containing as it does the usual record of mismanagement and race hatred, fostered by mutual misunderstandings and thoughtless oppor-

tunism.

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By Ltd. oble Co. One of the best of the books resulting from the war in Cuba was written by Captain George Clarke Musgrave, whose new volume, "In South Africa with Buller," contains a vivid account of that doughty warrior's advances and retreats. It is a violently partisan work, addressed to Americans in a particular sense, even to the point of quoting Mr. John Hays Hammond, a paid attorney of the Johannesburg mine owners, as an authority, along with a number of other Americans with foreign names who wish to see England reduce taxation. The book makes no pretension to literary graces, but its narrative of the fighting can hardly fail to interest.

Another former Cuban correspondent is Mr. John Black Atkins, whose letters to the Manchester "Guardian" have been collected, so far as they are pertinent, into a volume entitled "The Relief of Ladysmith." The story of the repeated attempts to bear succor to the people of that sadly beleagured and gallant little town is told in Mr. Atkins's best style, with great good humor, though with a full setting forth of the difficulties met and surmounted.

Dr. E. Oliver Ashe was a surgeon in the hospital at Kimberly during the siege, and his "Besieged by the Boers" is a picturesque account of events in that monopolistic town for several months, mottled with paragraphs that reflect the deadly dullness of the long isolation. Dr. Ashe's vivid pages tell a story worth telling, and tell it well.

The two books of Mr. Winston Spencer Churchill, "London to Ladysmith via Pretoria" and "Ian

Hamilton's March," form a continuous narrative of the author's numerous adventures and narrow escapes, from the beginning of the war to the capture of Pretoria. The inclusion of the diary of Lieutenant Frankland, an officer in the unfortunate Dublin Fusileers, carries on the tale of the prisoners at Pretoria from the time of Mr. Churchill's escape until his return to that city with the British column. It is not necessary here to praise Mr. Churchill's methods of presenting his facts. He is writing in the field and his letters appear in a London paper before they are printed in book form; but it is doubtful if any revision or care could give them the air of reality they now convey.

Mr. Howard C. Hillegas is an American who has been attached to the Republican side in the South African struggle. His account of "The Boers in War" pays a high tribute to the men who compose the burgher armies, and the manner in which they go about their battles. He bears witness to the smallness of the force which they have been able to put in the field, such forces never exceeding thirty thousand men at any time, and his description of what might be called the "cleative system".

thirty thousand men at any time, and his description of what might be called the "elective system" of fighting makes it still more surprising that their successes should have been what they are. Though his sympathies are evidently with the Dutch, Mr. Hillegas is wholly free from rancor, as was evi-

denced in his former book.

The psychological study of a man changing his mind adds to the value of Mr. Richard Harding Davis's "With Both Armies in South Africa." It is evident from the narrative that Mr. Davis had been so thoroughly persuaded the burghers were as black as the British had painted them that his discovery of the exaggeration caused a total overthrow of all his pre-judgments, leaving him as violently partisan as before, though on the other side. His testimony that the Englishman is a bad loser can be matched by an abundance of examples collected from exclusively British sources since the outbreak of hostilities, and the hearty dislike his frankness has caused in Great Britain is some witness to the accuracy of his comment.

Mr. Spencer Wilkinson's volume of "Lessons of the War" is merely a reprint of his weekly reviews in "The London Letter," and carry the story of the war no further than the relief of Ladysmith. His statement that no power will intervene unless it is prepared for war still awaits complete demonstration. Another similar volume will contain more

and riper decisions.

Even the preface by the Earl of Rosebery does not save Mr. H. O. Arnold-Forster's "The War Office, the Army, and the Empire" from being too sanguine a work in its belief that strictures on the blunders of those who control the machinery of the British army will result in reform. Similar rumors have been heard in the United States ever since Grant found himself powerless to redeem his specific pledges to Sherman in behalf of the War Department against the protests of mere politicians; and the two great Anglo-Saxon powers are too desperately proud of proving that they can triumph over difficulties to stop to remove any of their own making. The author makes out the strongest possible case against official incompetents in places of power — and so did Captain John Bigelow, U.S.A., in 1899, concerning the authorities at Washington.

Dr. A. Conan Doyle states the case against himself with entire fairness in the preface to his "The Great Boer War." He wrote the somewhat bulky volume partly in England and partly on the steamer in passage, finishing it in Bloemfontein while professionally engaged during the epidemic among the wounded soldiers there. "Often," he says, "the only documents which I had to consult were the wounded officers and men who were under our care." Elsewhere he speaks of the volume being "compiled with as much accuracy as is attainable at this date." But the history, such as it is, has commanded the highest praise in England, and it seems to be designed exclusively for British consumption. Dr. Doyle means to be impartial, and there are frequent evidences of his efforts to that end. He brings to the book, too, a personal knowledge of the South African landscape and general geography, in addition to his well known skill as a writer.

"The Rise and Fall of Krugerism" bears for its sub-title, "A Personal Record of Forty Years in South Africa," and Mr. Scoble may be regarded as its real author, the position of Mr. Abercrombie in the intelligence department of Cape Colony enabling him to eke out the facts which his colaborator's correspondency for the London "Times" at Pretoria put him in the way of acquiring. The book is written from the extreme imperialistic point of view, and nothing derogatory to the government of the Transvaal has been omitted, making it a treasure house for the opponents of the Republics. But even here the silence of the authors respecting the Orange Free State admits away a part of their contention.

Dr. M. J. Farrelly is an advocate of the supreme court of Cape Colony, and he is somewhat more frank than many of his countrymen in setting forth the nature of the struggle. "We are fighting," he says, "in order to place a small international oligarchy of mine owners and speculators in power at Pretoria [what Kruger was fighting to avoid]. Englishmen will surely do well to recognize that the economic and political destinies of South Africa are, and seem likely to remain, in the hands of men, most of whom are foreigners by origin, whose trade is finance, and whose trade interests are not chiefly British." Dr. Farrelly looks for a period of duress as a Crown colony for the Transvaal and, probably, the Free State, and regards time as the only solution of most of the existing difficulties.

WALLACE RICE.

#### BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

The Daniel O'Connell of Mr. Robert O'Connell, the Irish Dunlop's presentation, in the "Heroes of the Nations" series (Putnam), is a genuine Irishman, somewhat unduly spiritualized it may be, yet typical of his race. Mercurial in temperament, quick to take offense and quick to forgive, easily quarrelsome over trivialities, he is still the foremost figure in the long list of the Irish agitators of the earlier part of the century. O'Connell was a leader of the Irish bar, an eloquent orator, and an effective member of Parliament, but it is upon his abilities as an organizer of political societies for the redress of Ireland's grievances that Mr. Dunlop justly places the greatest stress. He excelled his contemporaries in his ability legally to evade repressive laws, and he stood far above every other agitator of the period in his determination never to encourage violent methods for the repeal of obnoxious statutes. O'Connell always advocated "constitutional" agitation. Monster petitions, public meetings, and far-reaching political associations were the instruments he chose to express Ireland's sentiments, in the hope that incessant iteration would ensure fair treatment for his countrymen. Revolution was hateful to him. Neither personal persecution, nor discouragement at the seeming failure of wisely conceived projects, moved him, for an instant, from his horror of insurrectionary methods. Mr. Dunlop insists upon this again and again, for O'Connell has frequently been credited with the will, but not with the courage, to embroil Ireland in civil war, and during his lifetime was generally regarded in England as hypocritical in his denunciation of armed resistance. Yet Mr. Dunlop's estimate is sustained by numerous quotations from O'Connell's personal letters to intimate friends, at every stage of his career. O'Connell's character and acts were by no means above criticism, and the author does not attempt to conceal the defects. He was an egoist, yet perhaps purposely so in politics, recognizing the aptitude of his countrymen for submission to the political "boss." He made serious mistakes in policy, as when he favored the disfranchisement of the forty shilling freeholders. He was often vulgar and abusive in language toward his political opponents. These failings are noted explicitly, though usually with toleration, by Mr. Dunlop. Yet O'Connell's greatest mistake, in the author's opinion, was one of judgment and not of character or measure, briefly, that his whole scheme of operations, though successful in securing Catholic emancipation, was based upon ideals, thus rendering complete success impossible. O'Connell believed that when once England was educated to understand the wrongs of the existing government of Ireland, the English sense of justice would force the righting of these He therefore educated England by agitation in Ireland. Mr. Dunlop asserts that England

has never acted toward Ireland upon principles of abstract justice, and that selfish interest alone has brought any alleviation of Irish distress. Mere agitation of principles of right are here, therefore, always useless unless England sees her own direct benefit in their realization. Mr. Dunlop is an Englishman.

In "Sleeping Beauty and Other Prose Fancies" (John Lane) Mr. Talk about
Art and Life. Richard Le Gallienne gives us a series of short essays written in the brilliant vein that holds attention if it does not always produce conviction. Mr. Le Gallienne is a devotee of the religion of beauty, and in the fervor of his devotion he says, "Why not disendow the Church, and endow Literature, which is really the coming Church?" His militant faith in the triumph of the finer instincts of the soul, love of beauty and desire for truth, and longing for the invisible things of the spirit, is abundantly in evidence, and especially so in the most important essay in the book, "The Second Coming of the Ideal." He insists upon the reality of dreams, and declares that realism has failed because it does not understand, as does idealism, the science of human nature. Eager and earnest as are Mr. Le Gallienne's convictions, he manages to give them publicity without too much parade of importance, dwelling upon them lovingly rather than strenuously, and even touching them lightly with a graceful fancy and a mild sort of wit. His treatment of Mr. Stephen Phillips has the charm of absolute sincerity of appreciation, and this paper more than any other makes us realize how much of our pleasure in the volume comes from the genuineness of his fresh delight in the sesthetic charm of books and men. But his enjoyment of Stevenson, and Theodore Watts-Dunton, and Miss Custance is balanced by the very positive irritation that comes to him from the great popular success of Rudyard Kipling. "Mr. Kipling has chosen to make the clay jig, instead of compelling the marble to sing; and he has his reward," he says, "A Propos The Absent-Minded Beggar," and, while we may not sympathize with his feeling of personal vexation, we must allow the criticism. On the whole, while there are some good things well said in the book, it is an entertaining rather than weighty or valuable contribution to the literary discussion of the problems of art and life. It might be suggested to Mr. Le Gallienne that his work is sufficiently pretentious to warrant his giving a little more attention to the writing of correct English. Especially is this desirable if he is to go forth to battle with Mr. Kipling as one who degrades the national literature by the use of slang.

A commendable composed fun a matter of general interest, and descriptions of the peculiarities and vagaries of the venerable mother of the muses may frequently be overheard in the small talk of cultivated persons. Exact information in regard to the

psychological status of the memory-processes is certainly desirable; and on the whole such information has kept pace with the increasing knowledge in regard to the physiological and psychological basis and mode of development of mental functions. Professor Colegrove's inductive study of "Memory (Holt) is a well-designed aid to the student of this topic, and will appeal to the interests of the general reader. The scope of the volume includes an introductory chapter giving the historical setting of opinions in regard to the nature of memory; a suggestive account of the fluctuations of the memoryfunctions in the biological world; some description of the diseases of memory, without which a con-ception of memory would be both misleading and inadequate; a brief statement of the connection of memory-processes with the functions of the brain: a discussion of the significant types, or classes of memory; a detailed study, on the basis of an extensively circulated question-sheet, of certain special problems in regard to the tenacity, accuracy, direction, unfoldment, relation to age, sex, race, etc., and other characteristics of individual memories; a discussion of the relations of the mere retentive functions to the assimilative ones, particularly to attention, apperception, and association; and a concluding chapter rehearsing the pedagogical applications of the main results of the previous studies. The volume is the outcome of a deep personal interest and of a special investigation of the subject. Its essential defect is the lack of a sustained hold upon the relations of the different parts of the subject to one another. We have a series of incidents, where we expect a continued story involving the same characters but in new situations. It is true of memory as of many problems psychological, that "what was a problem once is a problem still"; but an interesting sketch of the shape which the problem assumes in response to the activities of modern research may be profitably gained from Dr. Colegrove's handbook.

"The history of our navy under steam divides itself into two parts, rather sharply separated by a peculiar war-vessel forced into the field of action in advance of its natural time by the demands of a great war, and destined suddenly to change by its example the naval armaments and methods of all nations." This sentence indicates the underlying thought in "The Monitor and the Navy under Steam" (Houghton), by Lieut. Frank M. Bennett, U.S.N. The story of the origin and progress of steam navigation is told in a very interesting way, a number of drawings helping materially in giving the reader a correct understanding of the successive advance steps. A second chapter recounts the famous duel between the "Monitor" and the "Merrimac," and this is followed by a description of other naval actions of the Civil War, the uppermost thought always being the evolution of the modern battle-ship. After the Civil War the United States "practically dropped out of sight for twenty years as a naval or maritime power," and European nations made the experiments and perfected the machinery necessary to the building of the battleship of to-day. This naval indifference was trying to American officers, and yet had its compensations, since we were able, when our "new navy" was planned, to profit by the expensive experience of the rest of the world. What the new navy accomplished in the Spanish-American War of course is set forth in glowing words, nearly a hundred pages out of three hundred and fifty being given to the events of 1898. This may perhaps be criticised as an undue proportion, but it is true that the story is designed to approach such a climax, all the thought and inventions of the past being represented at their best in such a vessel as the "Oregon." The last chapter will be depended upon to sell the book, but it is likely that more real value attaches to the earlier pages, which show how naval inventors worked unceasingly at ideas tending to make the ships move faster than sails could carry them, and at the same time to make a more solid barrier for the flag at sea than was afforded by the "wooden walls " of the old navy.

In his careful and engrossing work The story of "Old Ironsides." on "The Frigate Constitution, the Central Figure of the Navy under Sail" (Houghton), Mr. Ira N. Hollis follows the fortunes of "Old Ironsides" from her inception under the presidency of Washington to her present condition of honorable old age, in which she is soon to enjoy a pension adequate for her maintenance in ease and dignity. With the part in history played by the "Constitution" Americans have every reason to be satisfied. If she did not win her spurs - a most terrestrial trope, in this connection - during the brief war with France, she did beat an English frigate sailing at that time, and Preble gave her plenty to do against the Tripolitans soon after. It was in 1812 that the gallant ship blossomed into her fulness of fame, and Mr. Hollis does not exaggerate when he says she "was the single champion of a young and struggling nation" in a war which "terminated the period of our dependence upon England." Thrice escaping from British fleets by exhibitions of resourcefulness which still thrill the heart, and thrice victorious over British ships-of-war, - the "Guerriére," the "Java," and the "Cyene" and "Levant," - the career of the "Constitution" furnishes almost enough material for an epic. The book is always readable and frequently fascinating.

The life and character of books on Cromwell of late, notably of lite studies by Mr. John Morley and Governor Roosevelt, and to them is now added Mr. Arthur Paterson's "Oliver Cromwell, His Life and Character" (Stokes), a continuous, well-rounded work which the reader who wants biography as

nearly as possible pure and simple, and in a form which presupposes a very moderate degree only of antecedent knowledge of the elements of Cromwell's story, will probably find more serviceable than any of its recent predecessors. Mr. Paterson's object is to give a detailed narrative of the personal life, aims, and motives of Cromwell, and he has hence abstained so far as may be from the usual historical and politico-philosophical excursions which his theme suggests. His book, in short, is a good plain narrative of Oliver's career, and a sensible, unexaggerated view of his character. Mr. Paterson inclines to take issue with writers who regard Cromwell's later usurpations as an apostasy from the cause of political liberty, and endeavors with some plausibility to show that his high-handed measures were largely forced on him by circumstances (which we believe to be in a measure true), and, moreover, that in taking such measures he really acted as the instrument or mandatary of his council (which we believe to be exceedingly doubtful). Mr. Paterson's book is very readable, and it sets forth concisely, in a compact, well-made volume, the essentials of Cromwell's history. There are two well-executed portraits, one of them a likeness of the Protector's mother after a rare original.

Before the outbreak of hostilities in The Forward South Africa, the question that most Policy in India. interested political England was the so-called "Forward Policy" in India, and whether the Afridi war was a logical result of that policy. Under the guise of a personal memoir, Mr. Richard I. Bruce, a former political agent in Beluchistan, has written a book of comment upon English action in India. "The Forward Policy and Its Results" (Longmans) relates the chief activities of its author, and defends the system introduced by Sir Robert Sandemann, in bringing under English control some of the frontier tribes between Northwest India and Afghanistan. The question at issue is as to whether it is wiser to accustom the wild Pathans of this border to submit to English intervention in their disputes, and to permit the establishment of semi-military outposts, or to leave them absolutely independent in the hope that such a policy will assure their friendship in case of a Russian advance on India. Mr. Bruce is emphatically in favor of the Forward Policy as opposed to the Close Border Policy. Every new government in India, he says, has entered office with the determination to check further advance toward Afghanistan, but has been forced by the necessity of the situation to alter its purpose. He advocates a peaceable, friendly, nonmilitary advance, to be made on principle and not grudgingly, and cites his own and Sir Robert Sandemann's labors among the Marris and Bugtis in proof that such an advance is possible. He is not a forcible writer, and indeed makes no pretense at literary merit, but trusts to the reiteration of specific facts in Indian history to substantiate his argument. As a personal memoir the book is not interesting, for the description of frontier incident and life has been sacrificed to the narrative of petty political events. It will be of value to those American readers who care to know the conditions of government on this thousand-mile frontier of India. Many fine photographs of men and places accompany the text, and an excellent map is inserted at the end.

The Germans in Colonial times. During the last ten years, a great deal of attention has been paid by special students of American history to what

may be called the minor race elements of Colonial times, and long-delayed protests have been increasingly frequent against that method of historywriting which ascribes all the virtues of Colonial days to the English settlers and finds small place for mention of representatives of other blood who helped to build the United States. "The Germans in Colonial Times" (Lippincott), by Miss Lucy Forney Bittinger, is the latest of these protests, a compact little volume of three hundred pages, into which is crowded a vast amount of interesting information regarding the early German immigrants. The conditions in the homeland which led to the movement of population are shown, a religious condition and a social one, and then, step by step and colony by colony, the author describes the various German bodies, many of them small religious sects, Mennonites, Dunkers, Salzburgers, Moravians and the like, who settled here and there from Maine to Georgia, called locally "Pennsylvania Dutch," and yet having many common characteristics wherever found. The trials and tribulations of these immigrants are clearly shown, one interesting chapter being on the "Redemptioners," in which it appears that the lot of an indented servant was often a hard one. A chronological table shows that the German influence was manifested for exactly a century before the treaty of Paris of 1783, the first company, the one which located at Germantown, coming in 1683. A quite extensive bibliography indicates wide reading. The writer undoubtedly performed a labor of love in the preparation of her material, and her heart was full of desire to make the best case for her friends. Naturally there are some faults due to over-enthusiasm, and in some places the book lacks exact references and foot-notes, but it is none the less a welcome addition to the literature of Colonial times, and a valuable handbook regarding one important race-element in our cosmopolitan national character.

In his preface to Miss C. A. Hutton's interesting monograph on "Greek statusettes." (Macmillan)
Dr. A. S. Murray, keeper of classical antiquities in the British Museum, states that, while anyone with the slightest artistic perception can enjoy the beauty of these dainty figurines, it is needful to share in Miss Hutton's unusual erudition if one is to step beyond this, and understand how they were made, and when, and where, and why. To these questions

the author returns no uncertain answer. Not only is the whole secret of the ancient manufacturers laid bare to the most casual reader, but such recondite matters as changes of coloring, and changes in dress and style, are made plain. To do this, it was needful to reproduce a number of typical figurines in both monotint and color, and these numerous illustrations add immensely to the value of the book. Many of the statuettes owe their birth to the period which gave us the immortal bits of the anthology, and the treasures of that work have been drawn upon by Miss Hutton for mutual comparison and elucidation, with the happiest results. Such a book has long been needed for general reference, and it is to be hoped that it may yet be re-issued in less expensive and more popular form.

The sudden and vigorous growth of A missiona that young nation of the Pacific, an of oung Japan. Japan, was due to many causes not popularly known. One of these was the presence in that land, at critical moments, of sturdy and level-headed foreigners. Dr. William Elliot Griffis in his "Verbeck of Japan: A Citizen of No Country" (Revell) has opened our eyes to see one of those characters. Dr. Guido F. Verbeck entered Japan in 1859 and gave nearly forty years of his life to the Japanese. He went out as a missionary, but his success as a teacher, his wisdom as a man of affairs, and his influence as an adviser, soon secured for him unwonted power with those in authority in the dawn of Japan's modern history. A number of the chief authorities of state in the young government had been his former pupils and wisely looked upon him as their best adviser; so that when the constitution of the country was finally cast, Dr. Verbeck was probably next to the dietator of its articles. Then, too, the educational policy of Japan, and its relation to foreign culture, to the arts and sciences, was largely shaped by the wisdom of this same Americanized Dutchman. Dr. Griffis has given us a noble portrait of this devoted missionary-statesman, who molded in a very definite manner the new empire of the Pacific.

The life of An auspicious and appropriate beginning to a new biographical series of "Saintly Lives" (Dutton) is made in Mrs. Anna M. Stoddard's life of Elizabeth Pease Nichol. Mrs. Nichol was known to all antislavery agitators in the English-speaking world as one of that devoted few who swayed the voice and the heart of England away from mere interests of greed in the struggle between the North and the South, and turned the popular English derision of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation into mighty mass-meetings of praise to the Divine Providence which had rid the world of its greatest curse. Elizabeth Pease was born in 1807, was married to Professor John Pringle Nichol in 1853, and died soon after her ninetieth birthday, in 1897. She was of Quaker lineage, and consecrated almost from birth to the cause of the hopeless and oppressed, an annointing which she never forgot. The story of her long and noble life, with its eager sympathy and deep devotion to immutable truths, is well-told in Mrs. Stoddard's volume.

Piessoni essays on familiar themes. on our follies and vanities and on things having to do in general with the old subject of the conduct of life, when the teaching to which we must listen is as genial and kindly, as full of a simple and wholesome wisdom, as is that of Mr. Edward Sandford Martin's " Lucid Intervals" (Harper). The chapters on "Children," "Swains and Damsels," "Husbands and Wives," "Education," "Riches," and the five more that make up the book are devoted to the comfortable optimism of a man who has known how to accept things as they are and be happy. The subjects touched upon are old and the possibility of saying anything new upon them does not promise much, but the racy freshness of treatment, and the pleasantly pervasive quality of the author's personality, gives them new color and interest. The book has a goodly number of taking illustrations and is at-

The Colonial woman, as an object of interest to her bustling and ambitious descendants, is still having

tractively bound.

her innings, and therefore the pretty volume entitled "Dames and Daughters of Colonial Days" (Crowell), by Miss Geraldine Brooks, will doubtless find favor with readers of books of its class. It contains ten simply-written sketches of notable women, the list beginning with the "first of American club women," Anne Hutchinson, and closing with Sally Wister, of Pennsylvania, a charming Quakeress whose life, says Dr. Weir Mitchell, "must have been a joy to itself and others." The characters chosen for treatment collectively represent a wide territorial range, and the flavor of the short story imparted to the sketches will commend them to readers in quest of entertainment.

#### BRIEFER MENTION.

The finest craft of the bookmaker is exhibited in the latest volume by "E. V. B.," entitled "Sylvana's Letters to an Unknown Friend" (Macmillan). The paper is of the best, the print is large and enticing to the eye, and photographic illustrations are lavishly interspersed with the letter-press. The delights of gardening are the prolific theme of the writer, who has means and leisure to indulge to the utmost her taste for floriculture. A gentle sympathy follows her record of the flowers that pass in lovely procession through the fertile months of the year. A little more life and warmth in her descriptions would relieve them of a possible accusation of monotony.

The Oxford University Press have published an "Anthology of French Poetry," including examples all the way down from the tenth century to the last, trans-

lated by Dean Henry Carrington. We need not in this connection discourse upon the necessary limitations of verse translation, for they are well understood. What is important to say is that the present translator is thoroughly familiar with his material, and that the deft poetical touch of his versions is often remarkable. His range is wide, and almost every French lyrist of importance is represented by one or more examples.

"The Foundations of Botany," by Mr. Joseph Y. Bergen, is a text-book published by Messrs. Ginn & Co. It is written upon the general plan of the author's earlier "Elements of Botany," but gives greatly increased attention to laboratory work and the study of cryptogams. The text proper occupies upwards of four hundred pages, and to this is appended a "Key and Flora" of two hundred and fifty pages more. In the latter section about seven hundred species, wild and cultivated, are included, which makes such an appendix really worth while. The directions for experimental work are abundant and explicit, and the volume has hundreds of illustrations in the text, besides a dozen or so full-page plates. The book is thoroughly scientific in method, and presents the subject in the most attractive way.

Mr. W. H. Mallock has tried an interesting experiment, although one not brought to a particularly happy issue, in his little book entitled "Lucretius on Life and Death in the Metre of Omar Khayyam." The similarity of spirit between the Persian and the Roman poet is sufficient to justify this effort, but if there be some suggestions of the unsophisticated Omar in Mr. Mallock's quatrains, there is nothing of the peculiar quality that FitzGerald gave to his immortal paraphrase. Mr. Mallock has produced about a hundred quatrains, and has appended the original texts upon which they are based. Mr. John Lane publishes the volume.

Mr. John Kenyon Kilbourn has compiled a volume on the "Faiths of Famous Men in their Own Words" (Henry T. Coates & Co.), which shows vast industry but less judgment. Of its ten chapters, four are upon the Millenium, the Intermediate State, the Resurrection, and Heaven, although only about a third of the book itself is given to these subjects. The famous men who write upon such subjects are somewhat unknown. Grover Cleveland, it is true, is quoted under the Millenium, but his words have to do with the disarmament of nations. Indeed, the author has a most catholic estimate of fame and has admitted many men - mostly clergymen - of whom the careless world has little heard. Yet, the volume is full of interest, and we doubt not will serve a useful purpose in furnishing preachers with apt quotations.

The admirable series of "Beacon Biographies" is being supplemented by a similar series of small volumes called the "Westminster Biographies" (Small, Maynard & Co.), dealing with prominent Englishmen. The two volumes upon John Wesley by Mr. Frank Banfield and Adam Duncan, Lord Camperdown, by Mr. H. L. Wilson, are good illustrations of what biographical sketches should be. The problems facing the two writers were precisely opposite. The material at hand for the biography of Wesley is voluminous, while in the case of Duncan it is strangely scanty. Each author, however, maintains the perspective of his subject's life and has incidentally given us a good many sidelights upon the England of their day. This historical treatment is especially prominent in Mr. Wilson's sketch of Duncan.

#### NOTES.

Two "Lark Classics" are the sonnets of Shakespeare and a selection from the lyrics of Mr. Swinburne. They are trim little volumes published by Mr. Doxey, New York.

The Chicago "Daily News Almanac" for 1901, compiled, as for many years past, by Mr. George E. Plumbe, has just been sent to us, and is a welcome addition to the reference shelf.

"The Rigveda," by Mr. E. Vernon Arnold, is a new pamphlet in the series of popular studies in mythology, romance, and folklore which Mr. David Nutt has been publishing from time to time.

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons publish a third edition, considerably enlarged, of "Cabin and Plantation Songs as Sung by the Hampton Students." A few Indian songs are also comprised within the collection.

"The Book Hunter," by Mr. John Hill Burton, is a bibliographical classic that needs no description at this late day. The J. B. Lippincott Co. have just republished the work in an edition that is both neat and inexpensive.

"Rouen," by the Rev. Thomas Perkins, and "Chartres," by Mr. H. J. L. J. Massé, are the two most recent additions to the series of "Bell's Handbooks to Continental Churches," issued in this country by the Macmillan Co.

"A New Greek Method," by Mr. William James Seelye, comes to us from the Herald Printing Co., Wooster, Ohio. It is a modest little book, intended to provide beginners with as short a cut as possible to their "Anabasis."

"Moore's Meterological Almanae and Weather Guide" for 1901, is published by Messrs. Rand, Mc-Nally & Co. It bears the name of Professor Willis L. Moore, but we marvel that he should have authorized so unscientific a title.

Two volumes of biographical and critical interest, to be issued shortly by Mr. M. F. Mansfield of New York, are a life of Samuel Richardson, by Miss Clara L. Thomson, and an account of "J. M. Barrie and his Books," by Mr. J. A. Hammerton.

Messrs. Frederick Warne & Co. call our attention to the fact that their "Nuttall Encyclopædia," recently mentioned in these pages as "reissued," is an absolutely new work, although the title-page does not make this altogether clear. We cheerfully make the desired correction.

Professor T. N. Toller's "Outlines of the History of the English Language," published by the Macmillan Co., is a serviceable text-book for students, whether in or out of school. It is essentially a treatise on Old English, although three chapters are devoted to the Middle and Modern periods.

Professor Simon Newcomb's "Elements of Astronomy," published by the American Book Co., is a small book but a comprehensive one. It is particularly well-fitted for use in such high schools and academies as are unable to devote more than a three or four months' course to the subject of astronomy.

The removal to New York of Professors Trent and Wells has devolved the editorial conduct of "The Sewanee Review" upon new hands. The work will now be taken up by Professors Henneman and Ramage, of Sewanee, and we have no fear that they will do anything to lower the high standard already achieved by this valuable quarterly, which is just entering upon its ninth annual volume.

"The Stories of My Four Friends" is a little book of nature studies for children, left in manuscript by the late Jane Andrews, and now prepared for publication by her sister, Mrs. Margaret Andrews Allen. This small volume, pleasantly written and charmingly illustrated, is published by Messrs. Ginn & Co.

The American branch of the Oxford University Press has arranged with the Rev. F. N. Peloubet, D.D., author of "Peloubet's Select Notes on the International Lessons," to issue a Teachers' Commentary on the New Testament. The work will be complete in ten volumes, the first of which, a Commentary on Matthew, will be issued at once.

"The Etiquette of Correspondence," by Miss Helen E. Gavit, is a publication of the A. Wessels Co. From it one may learn how to write properly all kinds of letters, and obtain at the same time much useful information respecting such incidental matters as heraldry, postal regulations, the use of abbreviations, and of foreign words and phrases.

"On Southern Poetry prior to 1860," by Mr. Sidney Ernest Bradshaw, is a doctoral dissertation presented to the University of Virginia. It is a conscientious piece of investigation, and adds one more stone to the cairn to which the twentieth century historian of our American literature will have recourse when he lays the foundations of his work.

"The Historical Development of Modern Europe," by Dr. Charles M. Andrews, has now been before the public for three or four years, and has approved itself to judicious students of history. Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons now reissue the work, two volumes in one, and call it a "student's edition." There are nearly a thousand pages in the volume, and the price is moderate.

"A Short History of French Literature," by Messrs. L. E. Kastner and H. G. Atkins, is published by Messrs. Henry Holt & Co. It provides a convenient manual for examination candidates, and at the same time a readable conspectus of the whole of French literature, down to the latest (or next to the latest) of the décadent writers of to-day. These closing chapters, indeed, while the most questionable, will probably be found the most useful in the book, for it is not always easy to obtain even such meagre information as is here offered concerning the French poets and novelists of the younger school.

Following up the edition of Dante's "Paradiso" issued in the series of "Temple Classics" (Macmillan) a few months ago, we now have the "Inferno" in similar satisfactory form. The Italian text and the well-known translation of Dr. John Aitken Carlyle are presented on alternate pages, with the necessary editorial material supplied by Mr. H. Oelsner. Other volumes in the same series that have come to us during the past few weeks include Vol. VII. of Caxton's "Golden Legend," Vols. IV. and V. of Macaulay's Essays, Vol. III. in Mr. F. S. Ellia's edition of "The Romance of the Rose," and Vols. IV. to VIII. in Mr. A. B. Hinds's translation of Vasari's Lives, — completing all four of these editions. Last of all may be mentioned the reprints of La Motte Fouqué's "Sintram" and "Aslauga's Knight," with illustrations by Mr. Charles Robinson, and Miss Mitford's "Our Village."

#### TOPICS IN LEADING PERIODICALS. February, 1901.

Anti-Scalping Bill, The. Hugh T. Mathers. Forum.

Armour, Philip D. Frank W. Gunsaulus. Rev. of Reviews.

Barbara Frietchie, The True. Anne Fletcher. Lippincott.

Booth, J. W., Recollections of. Clara Morris. McClure.

Canal and the Treaty. J. D. Whelpley. World's Work.

Cavalry vs. Infantry. Henry A. Greene. Forum.

Chemistry, Unsolved Problems of. Ira Remsen. McClure.

Chiaving Endeavor. Two Decides of A. R. Walls. R. of R. China, The True Situation in. T. F. Millard. Scribner.
Christian Endeavor, Two Decades of. A. R. Wells. R. of R.
Croker, Riohard. William Allen White. McClure.
Crowd, Beautifying the. Gerald S. Lee. Atlantic.
Democratic Party, Rehabilitation of the. Forum.
Election, Lesson of the. W. J. Abbot. Forum.
Empire by the Lakes. F. C. Howe. World's Work.
Employees, Self Help to. R. E. Phillips. World's Work.
Frys Shipping Bill, The. Review of Reviews.
Germany under a Strenuous Emperor. World's Work.
Graft, The World of. Josiah Flynt. McClure.
Humor. American. Essence of. Charles Johnston. Atlantic. Humor, American, Essence of. Charles Johnston. Atlantic. Huxley, Reminiscences of. John Fiske. Atlantic. Immigration, Changing Character of. World's Work. Industrial Revolution, The New. Brooks Adams. Atlantic. Industrial Revolution, The New. Brooks Adams. Atlantic. Japanese Immigration. Review of Reviews. Kitchener. James Barnes. World's Work. Libraries, Travelling. George Iles. World's Work. Lincoln as an Antagonist. C. P. Button. Lippincott. Lincoln Phrase, Possible Origin of a. Review of Reviews. Literature, The Dark in. Richard Burton. Forum. Monroe Doctrine and Hay-Pauncefote Treaty. Forum. Napoleon, Last Phase of. Goldwin Smith. Atlantic. Naturalist, Day's Work of a. E. W. Nelson. World's Work. Negro and Education. Kelly Miller. Forum. Negro and Education. Kelly Miller. Forum.
New York, A Plea for. J. K. Paulding. Atlantic.
Nonsense Verse, Study of. Carolyn Wells. Scribner.
Pan-American Exposition, Decorative Sculpture at. R. of R.
Pension Bureau and the South. T. A. Broadus. Rev. of Rev.
Porto Ricans, Status of. Stephen Pfeil. Forum.
Reconstruction Problem, The. H. A. Herbert. Atlantic.
Rhodes, Cecil. Ewart Scott Grogan. World's Work.
Sheep and the Forest Reserves. C. S. Newball. Forum.
Spellbinders, The. William D. Foulks. Forum.
Stage Reminiscences of Mrs. Gilbert. Scribner.
State Guards, Nationalization of. T. M. Anderson. Forum.
Trade-Unions, Am., and Compulsory Arbitration. Forum.
Trans-Caspian Railway, The. Henry Norman. Scribner.
War at Sea, Laws and Usages of. C. H. Stockton. Forum.
Washington and Lincoln. Lyman P. Powell. Rev. of Rev.
Woman's Education and Man's. C. F. Thwing. Forum. Woman's Education and Man's. C. F. Thwing. Forum. World Conquest, The New. P. S. Reinsch. World's Work.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[The following list, containing 41 titles, includes books received by THE DIAL since its last issue.]

#### BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.

The Rossettis: Dante Gabriel and Christina. By Klisabeth Luther Cary. Illus. in photogravure, etc., large 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 310. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$3.75.

Under England's Flag from 1804 to 1809: The Memoirs, Diary, and Correspondence of Charles Boothby, Captain of Royal Engineers. Compiled by the last survivors of his family, M. S. B. and C. E. B. Illus., 8vo, uncut, pp. 285. Macmillan Co. \$2.

The Historical Development of Modern Europe, from the Congress of Vienna to the Present Time, 1815-1897. By Charles M. Andrews. Student's edition, two volumes in one; large 8vo, unout, pp. 900. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.75 net.

The Siege in Peking: China against the World. By an eye witness, W. A. P. Martin, D.D. Illus., 12mo, pp. 192. F. H. Revell Co. \$1.

The Story of Assisi. By Lina Duff Gordon; illus. by Nelly Erichsen and M. Helen James. Illus., 16mo, gilt top, uneut, pp. 372. "Mediæval Towns." Macmillan Co.

#### GENERAL LITERATURE.

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